



**U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement**

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# News Release

## **ICE RETURNS CAREER CRIMINAL TO HAITI**

*Man had convictions for sexual assault on a child, selling drugs at schools*

NEWARK – A 32-year-old Haitian man with an six-year string of convictions in New Jersey for crimes including sexual assault on a minor, selling drugs at schools and robbery, was deported by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Feb. 28.

Morel Pirame was escorted to Haiti by federal officers aboard a U.S. government aircraft.

Pirame is a registered sex offender and a career criminal who pedaled dangerous drugs in communities and schools.

At the age of 19, he left Haiti in a small boat and was rescued at sea by the U.S. Coast Guard, which brought him to the U.S. military base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. He was later transported via military aircraft to Miami and paroled into the United States in May 1992 to pursue asylum, which he did not obtain.

Within two years of his arrival in the United States, Pirame began committing criminal offenses and spent more time in jail than on the street. His first convictions in 1994 were for sexual assault on a minor, criminal sexual contact, and endangering the welfare of a child. Over the next six years his arrest record expanded to include convictions for aggravated assault, robbery, illegal possession of a firearm, failure to register as a sex offender, and multiple convictions for selling drugs on school grounds.

“He chose to peddle drugs and prey on the children of our community,” said Michael Anderson, assistant field office director for ICE in Newark. Anderson's office responsible for carrying out court-ordered deportations in New Jersey. “Deporting criminal aliens like Pirame is key to restoring integrity to the nation's immigration system while preserving public safety. He twisted the American dream into a nightmare.”

During the last week of February, the women and men of the Newark field office removed 100 criminal aliens and 23 non-criminals who were illegally in the United States. Nationwide, ICE removal of criminal and other illegal aliens reached record levels in Fiscal Year 2004, with 157,281 total removals and 82,802 criminal removals.

# ICE #

*ICE, the primary investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security, was established to bring a unified focus to the enforcement of U.S. immigration and customs laws, with the principal goal of preventing violations by terrorists and other criminals who threaten the nation's security.*